

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 582

By Turner M

A RESOLUTION relative to reducing Social Security benefits.

WHEREAS, Social Security provides essential financial support to almost 55 million people in the United States, including more than 35 million retired workers; and

WHEREAS, Social Security provides modest benefits, averaging \$14,000 per year for retired workers, based on contributions paid into Social Security over a worker's lifetime of employment; and

WHEREAS, Social Security can pay full benefits through 2035; and

WHEREAS, Social Security has no borrowing authority, currently has \$2.7 trillion in accumulated assets, and therefore does not contribute to the federal budget deficit; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the United States deserve thoughtful and fair Social Security reform to protect current and future benefits and to ensure ongoing retirement security for seniors, protections for persons who become disabled, and benefits for the young children and spouses of deceased and disabled workers; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that it is the sense of this General Assembly that:

- (1) Any deficit reduction plan approved by the United States Congress should not balance the federal budget by eroding America's hard-earned retirement plan and social safety net; and
- (2) Appropriate reform to strengthen Social Security's long-term outlook should ensure that Social Security remains a critical source of protection for the people of the United States and their families without further increasing the retirement age or otherwise decreasing benefits.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Speaker and the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the President and the Secretary of the United States Senate, and each member of Tennessee's Congressional delegation.